

piece data managing apparatus 10 and loading it into the transfer media reading part 26 of the in-vehicle audio information reproducing apparatus 20, the data recorded in the memory device in the memory 30 is read by the transfer media reading part 26. In this connection, it is also possible to adopt an arrangement that the read-out data is copied into the memory unit 22.

By performing a series of processes as mentioned above, the reproducing order data which was edited and formed in the music piece data managing apparatus 10 can be easily transferred to the in-vehicle audio information reproducing apparatus 20 without needing any troublesome procedure operations.

The control part 21 of the in-vehicle audio information reproducing apparatus 20 collates the reproducing order data read out from the memory 30 with the management data stored on the hard disk 25 by the memory copy between both hard disks shown in Fig. 4 and makes the reproduction control of the music piece data according to the edition numbers designated by the reproducing order data.

The outline of the collating process in the in-vehicle audio information reproducing apparatus 20 is as follows. First, the control part 21 collates the memory addresses according to the edition numbers with the memory addresses stored on the hard disk 25 in the ascending order of edition number of the reproducing order data retrieved from

the memory 30. By way of example of the reproducing order data shown at the middle stage of Fig. 6, the control part 21 collates address "3" corresponding to the edition number "1" with memory address "3" stored on the hard disk 25. Subsequently, the control part 21 collates address "1" corresponding to the edition number "1" with memory address "1" stored onto the hard disk 25. Subsequently, similar collating processes are sequentially executed with respect to the edition No. "2" and edition number "3". The reproduction control of the music piece data stored on the hard disk 25 is made in correspondence to the memory address in each of the collating process. By the execution of the collating process described above, the reproduction control process of the music piece data can be performed for each group according to the attribute of the music piece data such as artist, music piece genre, or the like.

After the copying process between the hard disks shown in Fig. 4 has been executed, when the music piece data managing apparatus 10 additionally obtains a new music piece from the server 40, music piece disc 50, or the like, it can be additionally written onto the built-in hard disk 17 and recorded into the memory device in the memory 30. That is, besides the reproducing order data, the music piece data obtained additionally and the management data associated therewith can be also stored into the memory 30.

Fig. 7 shows a memory format used when the music piece data which has been additionally obtained and the like are

transferred to the memory 30 together with the edited reproducing order data. In the diagram, the management data corresponding to the edition number "V" and the music piece data corresponding to the management data are the data which has been additionally obtained. In Fig. 7, by setting the edition number of the music piece data which has additionally been obtained to "V", it can be distinguished from the reproducing order data. It is also shown that the address in which the music piece data has been stored on the hard disk 17 is the memory address "100". In the in-vehicle audio information reproducing apparatus 20 which read the data from the memory 30, therefore, the music piece data which has additionally been obtained and the management data associated therewith are recorded at the memory address "100" on the hard disk 25.

In the in-vehicle audio information reproducing apparatus 20, even if the collating process has been performed, with respect to the music piece data which was additionally obtained, since its edition number is set to "V" and can be distinguished from the edition number (for example, "5") in the general reproducing order data, the reproduction control process is not executed with respect to the music piece data.

Owing to the processes which have been described in detail above, if the number of music piece data and the management data associated therewith is small, in the music piece data managing apparatus 10, the data which was